AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-73. (Canceled)

74. (New) A method for reducing the antigenicity of AAV for transforming a cell and/or for gene therapy, the method comprising introducing at least one modification into a structural protein of AAV which brings about a reduction in the antigenicity of the virus relative to wild-type AAV and wherein the modification brings about a negligible reduction in the infectivity of the virus.

75. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the structural protein is capable of particle formation.

76. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the structural protein is selected from the group consisting of modified VP1, modified VP2, and modified VP3.

77. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the AAV is derived from a virus selected from the group consisting of AAV1, AAV2, AAV3, AAV4, AAV5, AAV6, and other AAV serotypes derived therefrom.

78. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the modification(s) is/are located on the virus surface.

79. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the modification(s) is/are located at the N terminus of the structural protein.

80. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the modification is based on a covalent or noncovalent linkage to the structural protein of one or more high or low molecular weight compound(s).

81. (New) The method as claimed in claim 80, where the high or low molecular weight compound(s) is/are selected from the group consisting of biotin, a mono- or oligosaccharide, a hydroxide group, an F_{ab} fragment, and one or more amino acid(s) or amino acid sequence(s).

82. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the modification is a mutation selected from the group consisting of a point mutation, a mutation of more than one amino acid, one or more deletions, one or more insertions, and a combination of these mutations.

83. (New) The method as claimed in claim 82, wherein the modification comprises a protein or a peptide inserted into the structural protein.

84. (New) The method as claimed in claim 83, wherein the inserted protein or peptide is an immunosuppressive protein or peptide.

85. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74, wherein the structural protein comprises at least one other modification.

86. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more insertions in the XhoI cleavage site of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

87. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more insertions in the BsrBI cleavage site of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

88. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions positioned between the BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid and one or more insertions.

89. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions positioned between the XhoI/XhoI cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

90. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions positioned between the BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

91. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the modification(s) is/are one or more insertions in VP3 that is/are located before and/or after at least one amino acid in a sequence selected from the group consisting of YKQIS SQSGA (SEQ ID NO: 2), YLTLN NGSQA (SEQ ID NO: 3), YYLSR TNTPS (SEQ ID NO: 4), EEKFF PQSGV (SEQ ID NO: 5), NPVAT EQYGS (SEQ ID NOS: 6, 7), LQRGN RQAAT (SEQ ID NO: 8), and NVDFT VDTNG (SEQ ID NO: 9).

92. (New) The method as claimed in claim 74 or 85, wherein the structural protein is part of an AAV particle.

93. (New) The method as claimed in claims 74 or 85, wherein the structural protein is part of an AAV capsid.